

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2016-0554
1520 W. ST. JOHNS AVENUE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1951 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a partial-width inset porch on ornamental metal supports; single and paired 2:2 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1951 by an investor. The first owners and occupants were James and Mary F. Stewart, who lived here in the early 1950s. he was a salesman. Around 1953, the house was purchased by Harry and Frieda Stromquist, who lived here until the mid-1960s. Harry Stromquist was a watchman at the Walter Tips Company before his retirement. Jo Ann Gomert, a nurse at Brackenridge Hospital, is listed as the owner and occupant of the house in the late 1960s; it was then purchased by Howard and Jeanette Bird, who lived here until the early 1980s. Howard Bird was employed by a publishing company; Jeanette Bird worked for the Capital Area Radiation and Research Center.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center. While the house is typical of the post-World War II residential construction in Crestview and therefore reflects the history and context of the neighborhood, it lacks the requisite architectural and historical significance for individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



1520 W. St. Johns Avenue
ca. 1951



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1520 W. St. Johns Avenue

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
August, 2016

- 1992 Dan L. and Sharon Curtiss, owners
 Dan: Employed by A-Line Auto Parts, 8601 Burnet Road.
 Sharon: Employed by Southwest Federal (no listing in the directory)
- 1985-86 Sharon Curtiss, owner
 No occupation listed
 NOTE: The directory indicates that Sharon Curtiss was a new resident at this address.
 NOTE: Dan L. Curtiss is not listed in the directory.
- 1981 Jeanette E. Bird, owner
 Employed by Capital Area Radiation and Research Center, 2600 E. MLK Boulevard.
- 1977 Jeanette E. Bird, owner
 Employed by Capital Area Radiation and Research Center, 2600 E. MLK Boulevard.
- 1973 Howard W. and Jeanette Bird, owners
 Howard: Employed by Futura Press, 1714 S. Congress Avenue.
 Jeanette: Office secretary, Children's Medical Center, 1301 W. 38th Street.

- 1968 Jo Ann Gomert, owner
Nurse, Brackenridge Hospital
NOTE: Howard and Jeanette E. Bird are not listed in the directory.
- 1965 Harry E. and Frieda A. Stromquist, owners
Retired
- 1962 Harry E. and Frieda A. Stromquist, owners
Watchman, Walter Tips Company, wholesale hardware, 2nd and Colorado Streets.
- 1959 Harry E. and Frieda A. Stromquist, owners
Watchman, Walter Tips Company, wholesale hardware, 2nd and Colorado Streets.
- 1955 Harry E. and Frieda A. Stromquist, owners
Watchman, Walter Tips Company, wholesale hardware, 2nd and Colorado Streets.
- 1952 James R. and Mary F. Stewart, owners
Salesman
NOTE: Harry E. and Frieda A. Stromquist are listed at 4803 Woodview Avenue; he was a watchman for the Walter Tips Company.
- 1949 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: James R. and Mary F. Stewart are not listed in the directory. The 1947 city directory shows James R. and Mary F. Stewart living at 609 W. 14th Street; he was a mechanic for R.H. Glismann, Chrysler and Plymouth garage, 600 W. 5th Street.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Harry E. and Frieda A. Stromquist (ca. 1953 – ca. 1966)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Harry Stromquist living with his brother, Luther Stromquist, in a rented house at 1517 Manor Road in Austin. Harry Stromquist was a 45-year old widower who had been born in Texas, and was the manager of a filling station. His brother, Luther Stromquist, 39, was a police sergeant. Harry had a daughter, Kathryn, 16, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed.

Harry Stromquist's 1917 World War I draft registration card shows that he was living at Coupland, Texas, where he was farming. He was born in 1894 in Manor, Texas, and was single. He was tall with a medium build, had grey eyes and blond hair.

His 1972 death certificate shows that Harry E. Stromquist was born in Texas in 1894 and was living at 600 Bissonet Lane in Austin at the time of his death at the VA Hospital in Temple. He had served in World War I, and his occupation was listed as unknown.

HARRY E. STROMQUIST

Harry E. Stromquist, 78, 600 Bissonet Lane, died in a Temple Hospital Wednesday. He was a lifetime resident of Austin and a member of the Gethsemane Lutheran Church. Stromquist was a farmer and a veteran of World War I.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Frieda Stromquist, Austin; one daughter, Mrs. Med Cashion, Oklahoma City, Okla.; one brother, Leon Stromquist, Austin; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral will be at Cook-Walden Funeral Home Thursday at 3:30 p.m. Rev. Thomas Corbell will officiate, and burial will be in Capital Memorial Gardens.

Pallbearers will be Burford Westlund, John Westlund, Sixten Johnson, Arthur Seaholm, Arthur Martin and Eric Sunden.

Obituary of Harry E. Stromquist
Austin American, April 27, 1972

STROMQUIST, Frieda A., 94, of Austin died Friday. Services 3 p.m. Sunday, Capital Memorial Park Mausoleum Chapel. Burial Capital Memorial Park. (Hyltin-Manor)

Death notice for Frieda A. Stromquist
Austin American-Statesman, October 5, 1991

Lloyd L. Myers

West
1520 St. Johns Ave.

322

24

D

Crestview

Frame residence and garage.

47451 2-7-51

\$5000.00

L. L. Treadwell

5

Building permit to Lloyd L. Myers for the construction of this house (1951)

WATER SERVICE PERMIT C No 9234

Austin, Texas

Received of L. L. MYERS Date 6-6-51

Address 1520 ST. JOHN

Amount TWENTY & NO/100 20

Plumber DEL F Size of Tap 3/4"

Date of Connection	<u>8-8-51</u>	No. Fittings Size 1 Curb Cock <u>5/8"</u> 1 Elbow <u>3/4" COPPER</u> 1 St. Elbow <u>3/4" COPPER</u> 1 Pushing <u>3/4" COPPER</u> Reducer 1 B. Pipe <u>1" 3/4" COPPER</u> Lead Comp Nipples Union Plug 1 Box <u>LOC W</u> 1 Lid Valves Job No. <u>W-323-502</u> P. No. <u>W-323-502</u>
Size of Tap Made	<u>3/4"</u>	
Size Service Made	<u>3/4"</u>	
Size Main Tapped	<u>6" CI.</u>	
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>2.5'</u>	
From <u>E</u> Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>35'</u>	
Location of Meter	<u>CURB</u>	
Type of Box	<u>OPEN</u>	
Depth of Main in St.	<u>2'</u>	
Depth of Service Line	<u>2'</u>	
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	<u>8'</u>	
Checked by Engr. <u>7-9-51 R.C.</u>		

INDEXED

Water service permit to Lloyd L. Myers for this address (1951)

Receipt No.

17055

Application for Sewer Connection

Nº

28606

Austin, Texas,

6-6-1951

To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by
 L. L. Myers at 1520 St. Johns Street,
 further described as Lot 24 Block D Outlot Division
 subdivision Crestview Plat —, which is to be used as a Res

In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 42358
 I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge.

Depth at Prop. Line 2'

Respectfully,

Stub Out } 1 E OF WALL
 Connected (Location)

Date 6-12-51

By

NOTE: Connection Instruction

Man 14.5' 14' 0" R.
 63 Murchison St. 5 Aug 1951

B-1827

Sewer connection application by Lloyd L. Myers for this address (1951)